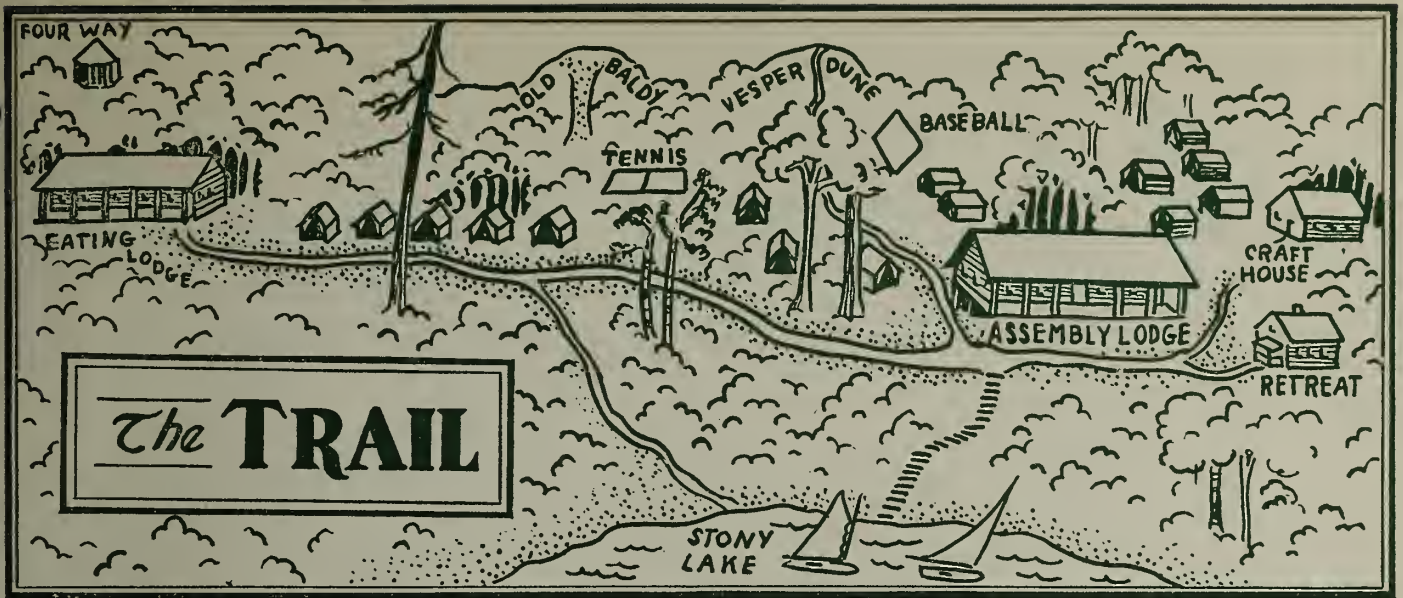


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## Official Newsletter of the Miniwanca Younger Boys and Pre-Senior Camps

APRIL AMERICAN YOUTH FOUNDATION, 3930 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis 8, Mo.

1953

CAMP DAYS, SUMMER DAYS, MINIWANCA DAYS, man alive I can hardly believe they will so soon be upon us. In less than a month from the time you receive your copy of The Trail, I will be at Camp and just a little later, the first of the advance workstaff crew will be there to begin getting things in shape for your arrival.

AS YOU KNOW, Don Pierce has been at camp all winter, doing a hundred and one things to get the camp ready for the best summer we have ever had. The leadership staff is complete and I think we have one of the best groups of leaders we have ever had. There is a lot of good fun in store for us all, and the leaders are ready to go all out to give every camper a top flight camping experience.

DIRECTOR JOE WHITWAM is all pepped up and he has a raft of new ideas and fine surprises in store for the YB campers for this coming summer.

AND RUTHIE STEINER, our YB Camp Dietitian, who has been serving those good meals for the past nine years, will be with us again. I can hear the old camper bunch giving three solid cheers for Ruthie and her commissary crew. Ruth was in our office the other day, and she let me in on a few secrets in the way of menu surprises for this summer. Yum! Yum!

LOOK UP AT THE TOP OF THIS PAGE and see many places where so many interesting events will take place -- Assembly Lodge, Eating Lodge, Craft House, Badminton Court, Baseball diamonds, Archery and Rifle Ranges, Tennis Courts, Old Baldy, Vesper Dune, Council Circle, Stony Lake, Stony Creek, Lake Michigan and 300 acres of the most marvelous wooded sand dunes you ever saw, with high ridges and winding trails--stamping grounds of Indian Tribes in past years--and then just close your eyes and dream of those five wonderful weeks in a camping paradise like Miniwanca -- boy, oh boy, I know we all can hardly wait for camp to start.

IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!! Dig in your cleats and make a good showing the remaining few weeks of school and then come to Miniwanca all set for a grand and glorious fun-packed camping adventure, on the "Sand Dunes of Miniwanca, where we'll slip in the dip and roll the ball along, on on."

I'll be seeing you,

*Wadje*

P. G. Orwig







HI GANG!!...Here we go into June and the opening of the 1953 Younger Boys camping season. What a thrill to look at the calendar and know that we are nearly ready to begin packing all of those glorious things on the camp list and soon head for a glorious five weeks at our favorite camp - Miniwanca!

First off we want to welcome all of you new campers to YB and to let you know that from the first minute when we greet you in the registration line on opening day, from then on you are one of our great bunch, and you have the privilege to take part in every activity of the summer.

Then of course, to you old campers, a great big hello and welcome back. You fellows have a special place in the on-going program of Camp Miniwanca. We look forward to meeting and greeting every one of you at the start of this 24th season for YB camp!

We remember all the good times of past years --- swimming, sailing, boating, handicrafts, fishing, climbing Old Baldy, tribal games, camp service, choir, dramatics, band, newspaper, hikes, camp fires, overnight on the beach, vespers, photography, Chapel Dune, Scouting, outdoorscraft, tennis, volleyball, badminton, and many other activities. The list seems endless, for every day brings new experiences.



Remember, too, the special days --- Fourth of July, County Fair, Pre-Senior trip, Miniwanca Square Garden, Merry Half-a-Christmas, and Camper-Leader games. Then all of the other special Nights' Doings like Capture the Flag, Paper Chase, Barn Dance, Indoor Track Meet, Grand Council, Low Councils, and special movies--always something new and exciting.



But best of all are the surprises for this summer. We can't tell you about them yet, but 1953 promises to be the best year ever with red hot competition between the Beaches, Breakers, Sands, and Creeks for Unit and Nation championships.

Camp Miniwanca is a Christian Leadership camp, and here you will be living life at its very best with an outstanding group of college men as leaders and a fine bunch of campers from all over the country. Together these camper friends will make the 1953 season a grand, happy, worthwhile experience that will live long in your memory.



Welcome again to Younger Boys Camp  
at Camp Miniwanca in 1953.

Yours,

*Joe Whitwam*  
Camp Director





# from the MAILBAG...

Dear Fellow Campers....Just think, three more months until we "hit the dip" again! This year has been busy with school and sports, but my thoughts often trail back to Stony, Old Baldy, and Lake Michigan. I am looking forward to seeing all of you again for an exciting summer! Best wishes,

ED BELL - St. Louis, Mo.

Greetings Miniwancans... 'Ya ready for five more weeks of fun? Well, I sure am! I'm just itching to get my duffle bag packed and whiz away to that fun-filled place on the shore of Stony Lake!....All's well in Dayton. Our high school basketball team had the unfortunate opportunity of drawing Middletown (rated second in the state) in the regionals here. We lost by a convincing margin, but Middletown went to the semi-finals in the state..Now that track season is here, I have to keep in shape, but I'm just waiting to try my spindles at the Miniwanca track day!....Say, do you remember that election we had a camp last summer? That sure was a dandy! Even though we picked the wrong man, it was fun!...Well, enough of this chatter. Be seeing you all at Miniwanca this summer!

BRUCE ABEL - Dayton, Ohio

Hi Fellows...The highlights at Miniwanca for me are tent group suppers on the beach, climbing Old Baldy, Miniwanca Square Gardens, and the hot baseball games on the YB diamond....I am looking forward to another five weeks of fun and fellowship, and I hope to see both new and old faces back at Miniwanca this year!

BUD WAKEFIELD - Chicago, Ill.

Hi Campers...I often think of Miniwanca and the times I've had there. My parents were both campers at Miniwanca, so they know what I mean when I talk of camp....I am not attending Miniwanca this year because I have the privilege of going to the Scout Jamboree in California. I know you will have a swell summer, and I'll hope to be seeing you all in another year.

PHILIP ICKE - Ouray, Colorado

Dear Campers...This year I've been playing a lot of basketball, and now it's spring and only a few more weeks 'til school is out for the summer!....I'm looking forward to the many good times up at Miniwanca - things like sailing on Stony Lake, the good swims in both Stony and Michigan, the fun on the sand dunes, and the beautiful sunsets on Vesper Dune. I hope to see many new campers and the old ones, too, there at Miniwanca this summer.

WAYNE GIVENS - Riverside, Ill.



Fellow Campers...It surely is a privilege to go to Miniwanca. Every year I have gone, I have gotten some new ideas from the four-fold way of living and camping... Although I will not be there this summer, I am hoping to come in '54. But to the boys who are returning, and to the new campers this year, I'd like to wish you a grand time and a swell summer!

CHARLIE HUNTINGTON - Spartanburg, S. C.

Dear Campers...Here it is almost baseball season, and I'm still not getting where I wanted in basketball...I hope you fellows are all getting along swell in school..... Good luck on the tests! Be seein' you in June!

PAUL ARMINGTON - Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Wadjepe...I received the letter you recently sent with the Personal Advancement I made in my interview last summer, and I want to tell you how much that part of the four-fold way of Miniwanca has helped me.

Camp Miniwanca has been the best part of my life, and has really helped me to be a much better Christian. To top it off, sending me my goal has given me that extra boost to carry me through the year being my own self at my very best all the time.

I also want to inform you of my change of address from Dallas, Texas to Atlanta -- 1299 Moores Mill Road, Atlanta, Georgia.

Best wishes to you. See you this summer.

PAUL ERCKMAN - Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Wadjepe...I was very happy to receive your letter, along with my Personal Advancement. I have looked over the goals that I set for myself last summer when I had my interview. I have been selected to join the Latin Club and Camera Club here at school, and I am also in the school band and in the Youth Fellowship at church.

Our band had a very successful season. As a fitting climax to the season, we were invited to play at one of the Cleveland Browns' football games. After we had put on our show, the entertainment director came up to our director and asked us to come back next year. He also said that our band was the only band out of 15 or 20 others that was invited back next year. We were quite thrilled about that. I am also in the first concert band.

Well, the big news for me is that I got my God and Country Award at my church on February 8 - Scout Sunday. I had worked on this award since June 1952, so I feel that I really earned it. I am still active in Scouting, and I have just about enough merit badges for my Bronze Palms, which is the next after Eagle.

I'm certainly looking forward to getting back to camp this summer.

JOHN PICKERING - Lancaster, Ohio

#### KODAYA'S LATEST BOOK - "BY THE BIG WATERS"

Often campers write to the Founder office asking, "Where can I get a copy of Kodaya's book of poems?" If you are interested in Kodaya's newest book, "By the Big Waters," send a check or money order (made out to Lotus Publishers) to Kodaya--Dr. O. W. Warmingham, 828 Chestnut Street, Waban 68, Massachusetts. Cost: \$2.00 per copy. Some campers may want to order several copies to use as gifts. Kodaya's former book, "Singing Sands and Silver Sea," may be ordered from the same address for \$1.10.

AND HERE ARE TWO GOOD LETTERS FROM TWO SWELL PEOPLE WHO WILL BE RIGHT IN THERE  
WORKING HARD TO HELP MAKE THE 1953 YOUNGER BOYS CAMP THE VERY BEST ONE YET!!

HI FELLOWS!...Boy, has it been a mild winter at Miniwanca this year! I'm writing this in early spring, and believe it or not, there is no snow left. If the weather stays this warm much longer, the ice will be gone from Stony Lake also. There has been less than ten inches of ice most of the winter. It is usually fourteen to sixteen inches thick. The temperature has been 40 or better for the last few days, and while I am writing this it is 50 - and raining!

Are you DOERS in for a surprise!?? We have started in on a conversion program that will take three or four years to complete. Just wait 'til you see it!! The DARERS and the PRE-SENIORS will have to wait a little while longer for their surprise!

I've been busy doing an overhaul job on the sailboats. Boy, is that some job! It should take a couple of weeks to finish the whole fleet. I want to have all the boats in good condition by June 24. After finishing the sailboats, I will start on the canoes and do some patching and reinforcing so that they are ready for another summer of real use. By camp time, things will be in good, tip-top condition.

Just think, in less than three months, you'll be running up those 112 or 113 steps to the Assembly to get your tent assignment from Joe. It doesn't seem possible that winter is over and spring is just around the corner.

Well, fellows, not much more to say now, but I'll be looking for all of you on the big day - June 24! See you then!

Founderly,

*Don*

Don Pierce

P.S. How about some of you leaders getting up a week or so early to help set up camp? I'll really give you a good workout!

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HI BOYS!...In a few weeks we all leave for YB! Start packing your duffels soon!... Remember all those special treats from the kitchen?.....the watermelon?.....the pink lemonade?.....and the pop corn balls?

This year your commissary staff promises to supply you with BIGGER and BETTER meals and taste thrills! Already we're thinking about some of those special menus! Start whetting your appetites now for our Sunday night suppers and outdoor beach parties!! It won't be long 'til we'll be serving you at the opening night dinner!

Founderly,

*Ruth*

Ruth Steiner

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Hey fellas, remember the keen times we had last summer at the Miniwanca "theater?" Remember the plays?....and the Leader Frolic? We'll have more of those good times and lots of laughs this year, too! And for better and funnier productions, we need a few new costumes. How about sticking around when your mom cleans out the closets this spring? Anything that you could donate to the costume room - dresses, shoes, hats, jewelry, old suits, scarves - anything would be more than welcome!

THE FOURTH OF JULY is a terrific time at Miniwanca. Just wait and see! We'll have fun a-plenty, BUT - PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANY FIREWORKS TO CAMP!! This is against the Michigan state law. By special permission, we will have a display of fireworks for the whole camp, and it will really be a bang-up event!



# DID YOU KNOW THAT - - - - - ?

ED CLARK is the proud father of a baby girl, Katharine Anne, born last October. From all reports, she's a prize! Congratulations, Ed.

BOBBIE FELL parted company with his appendix last fall. We're glad to report that he's in tip-top shape again now.

EDITH WITTLER, YB nurse last summer, was Worship and Program Chairman of the St. Louis Evangelical and Reformed Senior Youth Fellowship the past six months.

Puerto Rico will be represented in the 1953 YB camp by Rafael Reyes, a first year camper who comes from Vega Baja.

BAYARD SHAVER is student council president in his Jr. High School at Wayzata, Minn. and president of the Jr. High Pilgrim Fellowship in his church. Good going, Bayard! That's real leadership!

Miniwanca YB campers--JOHN MILTON SMITH, BRIAN KLEPINGER, PHILIP ICKE and DAVID JETT--will be among the Boy Scouts attending the Jamboree in California this summer.

CARL LEADER is one of the students entering an exhibit in the St. Louis Science Fair. A recent issue of a St. Louis paper carried a picture of Carl and his exhibit.

## DON'T FORGET TO BRING TO CAMP - - -

YOUR MUSICAL INSTRUMENT - We always have a lot of fun in our tents, in the Four-Way Lodge, at Council Circles, at the banquet, etc. with our musical instruments. Bring yours along and help us have another good band and orchestra this year!

FISHING TACKLE - How good a fisherman are you? There are plenty of big fellows in Stony Lake if you are good enough to land 'em!! You can fish during the interest group period and have a real fish fry over an open fire. So come on, fishermen -- let's catch some big bass!

BOY SCOUT TEST MATERIALS - Camp Miniwanca will again be fully accredited by the Boy Scout National Council to pass Scout tests. Each summer many fellows pass their requirements at camp. If there is any special equipment you will need, remember to bring it along. Are you trailing the Eagle?

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES - Again we will have a good many books from the Michigan State Library, but probably you have several books which you've enjoyed reading and would like to add to the camp library so other boys can enjoy them, too. Copies of Life, Popular Mechanics, Boys Life, National Geographic, and other good magazines would be fine additions to the camp library, too. **BE SURE TO WRITE YOUR NAME** in each book and magazine you want to take home with you. If you are donating books to the library, we would suggest that you write in the front of each one: "Donated to the Camp Miniwanca Library by (your name)."

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ABOUT THOSE FRIENDS WHO WANT TO COME TO CAMP WITH YOU - here's the deal. The enrolment limit has been reached, and we have started a waiting list. Those who write to make application right away may possibly have a chance to come to camp this summer, but they'd better hurry, as the waiting list is growing longer each day. If you have prospects for camp, send their names, addresses and ages to Wadjepe (Mr. P. G. Orwig.)

PRE-CAMP INFORMATION including details about travel, insurance, laundry, shipping trunks and duffels, etc. is being mailed to your parents. We are also sending a list of equipment suggestions for you, so you can begin to get your things together for camp very soon.

BE SURE THAT YOUR NAME IS ON EVERY ARTICLE OF CLOTHING AND EVERY PIECE OF EQUIPMENT YOU BRING WITH YOU. YOU CAN GET NAME LABELS AT DEPARTMENT STORES, AND ADHESIVE TAPE IS GOOD FOR FLASHLIGHTS, ETC.





AND NOW FOR A BIG "HI YA FELLA" TO THESE NEW CAMPERS, who are registered as of the day we go to press. And of course, there will be some new guys before camp opens. Do any of them live near you? If so, be sure to tell them all about camp and how to pack their gear.

JAMES ANDERSON, Clayton, Mo.  
JON BAILEY, Kokomo, Ind.  
CHARLES BOLL, Culloden, W. Va.  
DAVID BAYER, Mt. Vernon, Ill.  
ROBERT BENEDICT, So. Charleston, W. Va.  
WILLIAM BIGGS, Kirkwood, Mo.  
JOHN BOWMAN, Canton, Ohio  
FIELDING BRAFFETT, Richmond, Ind.  
DONALD BUCHMAN, Richmond Heights, Mo.  
WILLIAM BUSH, Titusville, Penna.  
DICK CLOSE, Normandy, Mo.  
BOB CLOSE, Normandy, Mo.  
STANCIL COOPER, University City, Mo.  
JAN COPPOCK, Anderson, Ind.  
ELLIS COUCH, Circleville, Ohio  
BOB DENCKHOFF, Webster Groves, Mo.  
DENNIS DOERING, St. Louis, Mo.  
BILL DONGES, Xenia, Ohio  
BRUCE EAKLE, Clay, W. Va.  
JAMES EDWARDS, Titusville, Penna.  
ROY EMERSON, Gibsonia, Penna.  
WILLIAM EYRE, Abingdon, Ill.  
CHARLES FINCH, Webster Groves, Mo.  
JOHN FOSTER, Desloge, Mo.  
KURT FREVEL, Midland, Mich.  
HUGH GARVER, Peoria, Ill.  
TEDDY GOLDTHORPE, Charleston, W. Va.  
ROBERT GRAHAM, Canton, Ohio  
CHARLES GRANT, Longmont, Colo.  
WALLACE GRANT, Longmont, Colo.  
ANDREW GRIFFITHS, Canton, Ohio  
EDWARD HARRIS, Richmond, Ind.  
ROBERT HARTMAN, Hebron, Ohio  
JUDD HENSON, LaGrange, Ill.  
JOHN HOOVER, Toronto, Ohio  
EMERSON HOUSER, Indianapolis, Ind.  
CHARLES KECK, Western Springs, Ill.  
MERWYN KLEHM, Charleston, Ill.  
RICHARD KNIGHT, Clayton, Mo.  
TIM LEONARD, Shaker Heights, Ohio  
FREDDIE LIVINGSTON, No. Muskegon, Mich.  
WILLIAM LOCHHEAD, University City, Mo.  
RICHARD LODGE, Kirkwood, Mo.  
MICHAEL MADDERN, Louisiana, Mo.  
TIMOTHY MADDERN, Louisiana, Mo.  
JOE MAYHEW, Toronto, Ohio  
BLAIN MC CLARY, Ladue, Mo.  
GEOFFREY MC CLELLAND, St. Louis, Mo.

LEE MC CORKLE, Waldo, Ohio  
DOUGLAS MC FARLIN, Cleveland Hts., Ohio  
QUINN MEYERS, Maplewood, Mo.  
MILTON MILL, St. Louis, Mo.  
WILLIAM MULVIHILL, Tuscaloosa, Ala.  
JIM MURDOCK, Webster Groves, Mo.  
BILL MURDOCK, Webster Groves, Mo.  
JIMMY NASH, Huntington, W. Va.  
LEIF NULSEN, Indianapolis, Ind.  
DENIS O'BRIEN, Webster Groves, Mo.  
RADLEY PEARSALL, Geneva, Ill.  
LARRY POWERS, Oak Park, Ill.  
SCOTT PRATT, Kirkwood, Mo.  
JIMMIE RAINFORD, Chicago, Ill.  
ROBERT RANKIN, Fort Wayne, Ind.  
DAVID REX, Garden City, N. Y.  
JON RHODES, Webster Groves, Mo.  
TOM RIDGLEY, Columbus, Ohio  
CHARLES RIETZ, Fort Wayne, Ind.  
MARVIN RODGERS, Milwaukee, Wisc.  
DAVID ROHDE, Bonner Springs, Kans.  
MICHAEL ROHDE, Bonner Springs, Kans.  
SCOTTY ROHDE, Bonner Springs, Kans.  
KENNETH ROWLAND, So. Charleston, W. Va.  
ROBERT SCHIPMAN, Ladue, Mo.  
DONALD SCHNURE, St. Louis, Mo.  
DAVID SCOTT, Clayton, Mo.  
STEPHEN SCOTT, Clayton, Mo.  
JULIUS SEIDEL, University City, Mo.  
ALVIN SHROYER, Shaker Heights, Ohio  
TERRY SLOAN, Marietta, Ohio  
JOHN STARK, Lakewood, Ohio  
RONNIE STEIN, Webster Groves, Mo.  
DAVE STREETMAN, Webster Groves, Mo.  
DICK STREETMAN, Webster Groves, Mo.  
JOHN STUMP, Powell, Ohio  
WILLIAM TEN EYCK, Charleston, W. Va.  
ROBIN URMSTON, Bloomington, Ind.  
BRICE VORAN, Muncie, Ind.  
BOB WARE, Richmond, Ind.  
RICK WETZEL, Seymour, Ind.  
FREDERICK WHITE, Clayton, Mo.  
DANIEL WILLIAMSON, St. Louis, Mo.  
KENNETH WOODRUFF, Norfolk, Va.  
WILLIAM YOUNG, Franklin, Ohio  
ROBERT ZEIDERS, Canton, Ohio  
KENT ZIMMERMAN, Western Springs, Ill.

WELCOME NEW CAMPERS! WE'LL SEE YOU JUNE 24!!





# MINIWANCA!

## from A to Z

### A

Aquatics, Archery, Assembly, Appetites

### B

Boating, Banquet, Baseball, Bells!

### C

Campers, County Fair, Councils, Chipmunks

### D

Darers, Doers, Dramatics, Dip, Don

### E

Eagle-eyed inspectors, Eating Lodge

### F

Frolic, Fishing, Fireworks, Fun

### G

Games, Ghost stories, Grand Council

### H

Handcraft, Hiking, Half-a-Christmas

### I

Inspection! Indoor games, Ivy

### J

Joe, July 4th, Juggling, Jokes, Jeep

### K

Kodaya, "King Coles Court," Kitchen staff

### L

Leaders, Leatherette, Lakes, Lights-out

### M

Miniwanca Square Garden, Music, Mosquitoes

### N

Nature Lore, Nights Doings, Nurse, News

### O

Old Baldy, Official Handclap, Office

### P

Political Convention, Pictures, Pre-senior

### Q

Quiz Shows, Quiet After Taps, Quips

### R

Rest Hour, Recognitions, Riflery, Rain

### S

Sand, Sunshine, Steal the Bacon, Sailing

### T

Tents, Totem Pole, Topsy-Turvy Day

### U

Unit Doings, Unforgettable Days!

### V

Vespers, Volleyball, Violin Solos

### W

Wadjepi, Waterfront, Weather, Waves

### X

X-citement, X-pectancy, X-hilerati on

### Y

Yellow warblers, Yawns, YG!, You

### Z

Zowie! It's about time to stop!

this way to  
Camp Miniwanca  
FIVE WEEKS OF FUN!

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